

Application control No.: 10/037,278

Art Unit: 3671

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A sanitary napkin having a pair of end edges, a first longitudinal edge and a second longitudinal edge located between the end edges, a backsheet layer, a substantially liquid permeable topsheet layer and an absorbent disposed between the topsheet layer and the backsheet layer; the sanitary napkin including a selectively releasable, interengaging fastening system comprising:

a first wing extending from the first longitudinal edge of the sanitary napkin and a second wing extending from the second longitudinal edge of the sanitary napkin, each wing having a fixed end and a free end;

a first fastener component comprising at least a portion of the first wing and <u>at least a portion</u> of the second wing <u>generally adjacent the free end of each wing</u>, the first fastener component including an engagement section having a plurality engagement members; and

a cooperating fastener component comprising at least a portion of the first wing and <u>at least</u> a portion of the second wing <u>adjacent the free end of each wing</u> such that the first and second wings of the sanitary napkin are capable of being joined by movement of the respective components together generally along an attachment direction into an overlapping and interengaging configuration;

wherein the first fastener component is configured on the first wing and <u>on</u> the second wing so that the overlapped and interengaged wings are adapted to secure the sanitary napkin to <u>an a fabric</u> undergarment, and an unengaged first fastener component is positioned adjacent the backsheet <u>layer</u> so it is adapted to engage the fabric of an undergarment positioned between the backsheet <u>layer</u> and the wings.

- 2. (Currently amended) The sanitary napkin of claim 1, wherein the first fastener component on the first wing and on the second wing has a plurality of substantially non-isotropic engagement members such that the engagement section has an axis of substantially maximal engagement and the first fastener component is oriented so its axis of substantially maximal engagement is generally orthogonal to the attachment direction.
- 3. (Original) The sanitary napkin of claim 2, wherein each substantially non-isotropic engagement member has a stem portion with a distal end region and a securement element disposed at the distal end region of its corresponding stem portion.



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(Previously amended) The sanitary napkin of claim 1, wherein the cooperating 4. fastener component is a nonwoven loop material.

- (Original) The sanitary napkin of claim 4, wherein the nonwoven loop material is a 5. pattern unbonded material.
- (Currently amended) The sanitary napkin of claim 1, wherein the fastening system can be used is adapted to secure the sanitary napkin in a configuration convenient for disposal.
- 7. (Original) The sanitary napkin of claim 1, further comprising garment attachment adhesive on the backsheet layer.
- (Original) The sanitary napkin of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second 8. wings is substantially liquid permeable.
- (Original) The sanitary napkin of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second 9. wings is substantially liquid impermeable.
- (Currently amended) A multiple attachment system for attaching a sanitary napkin to 10. a fabric undergarment, the sanitary napkin having a pair of end edges, a first longitudinal edge and a second longitudinal edge located between the end edges, and a backsheet layer, a substantially liquid permeable topsheet layer, an absorbent disposed between the topsheet layer and the backsheet layer; the multiple attachment system including a selectively releasable, interengaging fastening system comprising:

a sanitary napkin;

a first wing extending from the first longitudinal edge of the sanitary napkin and a second wing extending from the second longitudinal edge of the sanitary napkin, each wing having a fixed end and a free end;

a first fastener component comprising at least a portion of the first wing and at least a portion of the second wing adjacent the free end of each wing, the first fastener component including an engagement section having a plurality of engagement members; and

a cooperating fastener component comprising at least a portion of the first wing and at least a portion of the second wing adjacent the free end of each wing such that the first and second wings of the sanitary napkin are capable of being joined by movement of the respective components together generally along an attachment direction into an overlapping and interengaging configuration;

wherein the first fastener component is configured on the first wing and on the second wing so the overlapped and interengaged wings are adapted to secure the sanitary napkin to an undergarment, and further present an unengaged first fastener component in a position adjacent



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the backsheet <u>layer</u> so it is adapted to engage the <u>a</u> fabric of an undergarment positioned between the backsheet <u>layer</u> and the wings.

- 11. (Original) The multiple attachment system of claim 10, wherein the first fastener component has a plurality of substantially non-isotropic engagement members such that the engagement section has an axis of substantially maximal engagement and the first fastener component is oriented so its axis of substantially maximal engagement is generally orthogonal to the attachment direction.
- 12. (Previously amended) The multiple attachment system of claim 11, wherein each substantially non-isotropic engagement member has a stem portion with a distal end region and a securement element disposed at the distal end region of its corresponding stem portion.
- 13. (Previously amended) The multiple attachment system of claim 10, wherein the cooperating fastener component is a nonwoven loop material.
- 14. (Original) The multiple attachment system of claim 13, wherein the nonwoven loop material is a pattern unbonded material.
- 15. (Original) The multiple attachment system of claim 10, wherein the attachment system can be used to secure the sanitary napkin in a configuration convenient for disposal.
- 16. (Original) The multiple attachment system of claim 10, further comprising garment attachment adhesive on the backsheet layer.
- 17. (Currently amended) A sanitary napkin having a pair of end edges, a first longitudinal edge and a second longitudinal edge located between the end edges, a backsheet layer, a substantially liquid permeable topsheet layer and an absorbent disposed between the topsheet layer and the backsheet layer; the sanitary napkin including a multiple attachment system comprising:

a first wing extending from the first longitudinal edge of the sanitary napkin and a second wing extending from the second longitudinal edge of the sanitary napkin, each wing having a fixed end and a free end;

a first fastener component comprising at least a portion of a bottom surface of the first wing and at least a portion of a bottom surface of the second wing adjacent the free end of each wing, the first fastener component including an engagement section having a plurality of engagement members; and

a cooperating fastener component comprising at least a portion of a top surface of the first wing and at least a portion of a top surface of the second wing adjacent the free end of each wing such that the first and second wings can be interengaged by bringing a top and bottom surface of respective wings into an overlapping configuration;





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wherein the interengaged wings are adapted to secure the sanitary napkin to an undergarment, and further present an unengaged first fastener component <u>in a position</u> adjacent the backsheet <u>layer</u> so it is adapted to engage the <u>a</u> fabric of an undergarment positioned between the backsheet <u>layer</u> and the wings.

- 18. (Original) The sanitary napkin of claim 17, wherein the wings of the sanitary napkin can be moved together into their overlapping configuration generally along an attachment direction.
- 19. (Original) The sanitary napkin of claim 17, wherein the first fastener component has a plurality of substantially non-isotropic engagement members such that the engagement section has an axis of substantially maximal engagement.
- 20. (Previously amended) The sanitary napkin of claim 19, wherein the first fastener component is oriented so its axis of substantially maximal engagement is generally orthogonal to an attachment direction.
- 21. (Original) The sanitary napkin of claim 19, wherein each substantially non-isotropic engagement member has a stem portion with a distal end region and a securement element disposed at the distal end region of its corresponding stem portion.
- 22. (Previously amended) The sanitary napkin of claim 17, wherein the cooperating fastener component is a nonwoven loop material.
- 23. (Original) The sanitary napkin of claim 22, wherein the nonwoven loop material is a pattern unbonded material.
- 24. (Currently amended) The sanitary napkin of claim 17, wherein the attachment system can be used is adapted to secure the sanitary napkin in a configuration convenient for disposal.
- 25. (Original) The sanitary napkin of claim 17, further comprising garment attachment adhesive on the backsheet layer.
- 26. (Original) The sanitary napkin of claim 17, wherein at least one wing includes perforation lines adjacent its fixed end to provide quick removal of the napkin by tearing the wing along the perforation lines.
- 27. (Previously amended) A sanitary napkin having a pair of end edges, a first longitudinal edge and a second longitudinal edge located between the end edges, <u>and</u> a backsheet layer, a substantially liquid permeable topsheet layer and an absorbent disposed between the topsheet layer and the backsheet layer;

the sanitary napkin further including a pair of wings, each wing extending a longitudinal edge of the sanitary napkin and each wing having a fixed end and a free end; each wing comprising:

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a first fastener component on a lower surface of the <u>each</u> wing <u>and adjacent at least the free</u> <u>end of each wing</u>, the first fastener component including an engagement section having a plurality engagement members; and

a cooperating fastener component on an upper surface of the <u>each</u> wing <u>and adjacent at</u> <u>least the free end of each wing</u> such that the wings of the sanitary napkin are capable of being joined by bringing the upper and lower surfaces of respective wings into an overlapping and interengaging configuration;

wherein the interengaged wings are adapted to secure the sanitary napkin to an undergarment and further present an unengaged first fastener component in a position adjacent the backsheet <u>layer</u> so it is adapted to engage the <u>a</u> fabric of an undergarment positioned between the backsheet layer and the wings.

28. (Currently amended) A sanitary napkin including an attachment system comprising:

a pair of wings including <u>a first fastener component</u> and a cooperating fastener component selectively releasable, interengaging fasteners on each wing and adjacent at least the free end of each wing such that the wings are adapted to hold the sanitary napkin to an undergarment; and

a fastener component including a plurality of engagement members so it is adapted to engage the fabric of an undergarment.